

CYRILLIC MANUSCRIPT HERITAGE

HILANDAR RESEARCH LIBRARY
RESOURCE CENTER FOR MEDIEVAL SLAVIC STUDIES

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Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage July 2014

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Founded in 1984, the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies (RCMSS), a center of the College of Arts and Sciences, is dedicated to the promotion of medieval Slavic studies. It is associated with the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, and together they provide broad interdisciplinary research and academic opportunities for students, graduate students, faculty, and visiting researchers.

RCMSS has close ties and shares space with the Hilandar Research Library (HRL). Both developed as an outgrowth of the original Hilandar Research Project (1969-1982). RCMSS is a non-national oriented center that promotes Cyrillic-based research. The Center strives to accomplish its goals through the support of HRL preservation and access activities, research, stipends and travel, occasional acquisitions of HRL materials, publication support, and sponsoring conferences, lectures, workshops, etc.

We gratefully acknowledge the Monks of Hilandar Monastery for making it possible for us to share their heritage, including certain images in this newsletter.

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**Front cover photography, and the above excerpt come from a document with the name and title of Voevoda Radu IV the Great, Prince (Voevoda) of Wallachia, dated March of the year 7005 (1497). Radu the Great (ruled 1495-1508) was the son of Vlad the Monk, Prince of Wallachia, and the nephew of Vlad Ţepeş (the Impaler), better known as Dracula, who ruled as Prince of Wallachia from 1456-1462. Slide by P. Matejic in 1971 of the original Wallachian edict #4 in Hilandar Monastery, Mount Athos, Greece. This is part of the "Mount Athos Slide Collection" of the Hilandar Research Library.*

From the Director's Desk

Professor Predrag Matejic



In this issue, I am delighted to introduce **Sarah "Jessi" Jones** who began work as the Program Coordinator of the Resource Center for

Medieval Slavic Studies (RCMSS) in May. Jessi has a professional background in outreach and conference organization, and with her experience in desktop publishing, she will take over the editorship of *Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage*. She also brings her considerable skills to an area of primary focus for RCMSS – the hosting of guest researchers, including graduate students, as well as budget planning and so much more.

This issue also contains brief articles by our two undergraduate student associates whose positions are funded by the OSU Libraries: since fall 2013 **Danka Adamović** and **Kevin Bloomfield** have been helping us organize and preserve various archival collections. Their primary task this year was scanning thousands of slides taken on microfilming expeditions in 1970, 1971, and 1975, primarily by **Walt Craig** (Ohio State Department of Photography, 1969-1986), the V. Rev. Dr. **Mateja Matejic**, and myself. These include slides of Hilandar Monastery and other monasteries on Mt. Athos, icons, frescos, and other religious objects, slides of manuscript ornamentation and select manuscripts, as well as monks and visitors encountered during those expeditions. Also scanned were gift sets of slides made by various donors over time. Among those are slides from my father and Walt Craig, **Dimitrije Stefanović** of Serbia, **Panto Kolev** and **Aksiniia Dzhurova** of Bulgaria, and **A. Dean McKenzie**, professor emeritus of Art History at the University of Oregon. It is our hope that these images will soon become broadly accessible, with permission to use them for scholarly purposes as permitted under various copyright privileges.

The 2014 Midwest Slavic Conference (March 28-30), sponsored in part by the RCMSS, coincided with the week-long celebration of the 50th Anniversary of

the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures (DSEELC) at Ohio State. Several Ohio government officials joined in recognizing this milestone, including US Senator **Sherrod Brown** and **Michael Stinziano**, representative of the 18th district of the Ohio House of Representatives.

Several former MSSS participants and HRL/RCMSS researchers have shared recent successes and milestones. We congratulate MSSS 2013 **Ray Alston** (Slavic Literature, Film, and Cultural Studies) and **Katya Rouzina** (Slavic Linguistics), who received their master's from Ohio State this spring. MSSS 2008 **Isabel Arranz del Riego** and **Mario Rodriguez Polo**, now in the Czech Republic, are proud parents of a son. Isabel has also defended her dissertation, for which she relied on Hilandar manuscript material. **Vessela Valiavitcharska** (MSSS 1999) has published a book *Rhetoric and Rhythm in Byzantium: The Sound of Persuasion* (Cambridge University Press, 2013), which includes a chapter on rhythm in medieval Slavic. In February, **Mihailo Popović** (Austrian Academy of Sciences) presented a special lecture in Serbia on the "Christian Sultanida Mara and the Monasteries of Mount Athos," which included new information and research based on his work here last summer. **Yulia Artamonova** (Fulbright from Russia 2004) is now living in Serbia and, when recently asked to present several lectures to musicology students at the University of Arts in Belgrade, she included an account of her research visit to the HRL. We congratulate **Tania Ivanova-Sullivan**, former RCMSS Graduate Research Associate and Ohio State PhD (Slavic 2005), and her husband **Neal** on the birth of their son **Daniel "Danny" Patrick**, born March 15th.

The more typical work of the HRL and RCMSS continued apace. We had research visits by **Anna Arays** (Indiana University), **Gwyn Bourlakov** (University of Kansas), **Olga Mladenova** (University of Calgary), **Jenn Spock** (University of Eastern Kentucky), and **Isolde Thrjæt** (Kent State). **Mirosljub Joković** of Serbia, a former researcher, co-organizer of the 5th International Hilandar Conference

(Raška, Serbia, September 8-14, 2002), and compiler of the *Archival History of the Hilandar Research Project* (Raška škola, 2007 in English, and 2008 in Serbian), made a brief visit to Columbus in January. It was good to reconnect and we wish him well in pursuit of new academic opportunities in Serbia.

M.A. "Pasha" Johnson, HRL Associate Curator, has given several conference papers since the last issue of our newsletter. A presentation with colleague **Melanie McGurr** at the Academic Libraries Association of Ohio (ALAO) in October 2013, "Outreach and Engagement for Special Collections through a Gallery Exhibit," outlined the successes, challenges, and lessons learned from Pasha's exhibit last summer "Travelers to and from Mount Athos: The Translation of Culture, Knowledge, and Spirituality." In November she organized a panel "Digital Humanities II: We Need to Do More about Digital Humanities" and served as a presenter at the annual convention of the Association for Slavic, East European & Eurasian Studies in Boston. Co-panelists included **Natasha Ermo-laev** (MSSS 2001), manager of the Blue Mountain Project at Princeton University, and **Steven A. Barnes** of George Mason University. At the invitation of **Nicholas Groves** (librarian) and Father **Serafim Baltić** (assistant librarian) of the Joe Buley Memorial Library at the New Gračanica Serbian Orthodox Monastery in Third Lake, Illinois, Pasha presented "A Survey of Manuscripts Produced in Hilandar Monastery during the Later Medieval Period" at the 49th International Congress on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo, Michigan, in early May.

Many of our readers email and ask about my father, the V. Rev. Dr. Mateja Matejic, who, as director of the Hilandar Research Project from 1969 to 1984, is largely responsible for the HRL and RCMSS. Included in this issue are photographs from the surprise party for his 90th birthday, celebrated in February with family and friends.

Helene Senecal, our recently retired RCMSS Center Coordinator (see back page of this issue), tells us that she is happy spending more time with her family, and especially with her three grandchildren. A fourth grandchild is due December 28th!



(Photo courtesy of K. Bloomfield)

Getting to Know Our Student Workers

Kevin Bloomfield, a third-year student at Ohio State concentrating in Greek, Latin and History, is a student associate at the Hilandar Research Library. He intends on pursuing graduate education in Medieval Byzantine History, and the opportunity to work at the HRL, one of the great repositories for medieval Slavic documents, was too enticing to pass up. Kevin has had the opportunity to examine documents from a noted figure, the nephew of Vlad the Impaler, or Dracula. Kevin remarks that one pleasure of working at Hilandar is the ability to engage with texts on a basic level. Even the most inscrutable writing surrenders vital information such as origin of composition or, rather famously, hidden acrostics. On a more personal note, working at Hilandar has given Kevin the opportunity to work with manuscripts from the Byzantine period which was very useful in research for his writing sample for graduate school.

So Kevin, what piqued your interest in History in general, and then more specifically in Medieval Byzantium?

I've always had a fascination for the past in general and history in particular. To me history is far greater than any novel or play or poem; it is the greatest story ever written for it actually happened, and it is the historian's task to piece together what occurred and why. I became interested in Byzantine History because of my mother; she suggested I try a science fiction and fantasy author named Harry Turtledove, who happened also to have a PhD in Byzantine History. After reading his books I decided to find the source material for many of his novels. Also, being a fan of the Roman Republic and Empire I could not pass up the chance to learn more about the Roman Empire in the Middle Ages.

You had the opportunity to examine some slides of documents from the nephew of Vlad II Dracul, what did you find in your time with the material?

What I found most interesting was the *viaz'* (ornate abbreviated writing) that adorned the vast majority of the documents. Seeing something so simple as a name made into an art form was quite novel. I also found that the handwriting of the majority of the documents was absolutely terrible, though I doubt anyone was brave enough to tell Vlad's nephew that he needs new scribes.

What have your experiences working in the Hilandar Research Library taught you?

My experiences at Hilandar Research Library have taught me there is an entire world of the medieval Balkans and Byzantium that was previously a closed book to me. I really was in the dark about the high degree of interaction between Slav and Roman as well as the fantastic archives of Byzantine documents that the Hilandar Research Library has.



(Photo by J. Jones)

Danka Adamović is going on her fourth year at Ohio State University and is majoring in History with a minor in Sociology. Danka is a first generation Serbian-American from Youngstown, Ohio, and is fluent in Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian. While at Hilandar, she has truly enjoyed working with Predrag and Pasha. During her past months of employment, she has worked with slides of Bulgarian, Russian and Serbian manuscripts and Cyrillic artifacts. She enjoys coming into work and gaining a new understanding of Orthodoxy. She has one older sister Aleksandra who also lives in Columbus. In her free time, Danka enjoys traveling, going to the beach, and spending time with family.

As a first generation Serbian-American growing up in the United States, did you encounter any challenges or benefits of your cultural duality? I feel like one of the most challenging things that I have encountered being a first generation Serb is that my parents could not understand English very well while I was growing up. This was difficult for me, because my sister and I had to take some initiative when it came to school events or sports that most children our age did not have to worry about.

What interests you about History and Slavic Studies? I love learning. With a history degree, I will learn about other cultures and hopefully be able to experience them as well. Working at HRL has developed my interest in Orthodoxy and other historical aspects of religion. Slavic is who I am. I have always been interested in where we came from, who we are and why we're here. Being Serbian is something people do not hear about every day. Getting a minor in Slavic Studies gives me a reassurance that one day, I will be able to educate my children and have a sense of knowing what I am actually talking about.

What have you learned so far in your time working with images of Bulgarian, Serbian, Russian manuscripts? Working at HRL has given me an opportunity of a lifetime. I never thought that I would be working here. So far, I learned that my Serbian is not like it used to be. I see myself struggling from time to time but it's a good struggle. Working with Slavic languages increases my ability to feel a little better when communicating with people who are fluent. Orthodoxy is a never ending book of information. Working with Predrag and Pasha, I learn something new every day about my culture. It makes me feel more confident when people ask me who I am and where I come from.

Student Workers' Slide Project Unveils the Pictorial History of Hilandar Monastery

Here we present a selection of slides, chosen from the collections Danka and Kevin (page 4) have been scanning.



The V. Rev. Dr. **Mateja Matejic** standing on the “porch” (Serbian: *trem trpezarije*) just outside the refectory. The porch with its interesting mosaic floor of small rounded stones and brightly painted wooden ceiling was remodeled/rebuilt between 1620 and 1652 (and a portion in 1797). Located just outside the large dining hall of the monastery (the oldest portions of which date to 1310), the 2004 fire which started just on the other side of the refectory was probably stopped by the old 14th-century barrier wall (firewall) in the western side of the refectory. Slide by W. Craig in 1970.

Approaching the entrance to Hilandar Monastery. Entrance as seen in 1970 and 1971, portions of which were remodeled in 1637/1638 and again in the 19th century. The tunnel-like entrance to the monastery had three sets of large double doors, each door made of thick wooden beams banded in iron. In 1970/1971, only one set of doors was used (and once closed at dusk, they would not be opened until the morning). The entrance was severely damaged in the fire of March 4, 2004 when more than one-half of the monastery burned. Slide by W. Craig in 1970 or P. Matejic in 1971.



This fresco is found inside the dome of the baptismal font just outside the Main Church in the courtyard of Hilandar Monastery. Slide by W. Craig in 1970.

This is a photograph of the Treasury of Hilandar Monastery. L to R Unknown visitor, the V. Rev. Dr. Mateja Matejic, and Monks **Mojsije** (seated) and **Mitrofan**. The two icons next to the window are two of the most famous in Hilandar: Theotokos with Christ Child and Christ Pantocrator, both dating to circa 1260-1270. The small icon on the easel to the right of the Pantocrator icon is the late 12th-century mosaic icon of the Theotokos Hodegetria, the personal icon of Stefan Nemanja (St. Simeon), founder of the Serbian Nemanjić Dynasty and father of St. Sava. St. Simeon and St. Sava founded Hilandar Monastery in 1198. Slide by W. Craig in 1970.



Taking an Historical Excursion through Hungary

By Lauren Ressue

In 1690, about 300,000 Serbs, fleeing the Ottoman Empire, were invited by Austrian Emperor Leopold I to reside in the Austro-Hungarian Empire. For the first half of the 18th century the South Slavs were the ethnic majority there. These Serbs have left their mark on the architecture and culture of Szentendre. At one



Display case at the Serbian Orthodox Museum (Photo by L. Ressue)

point, there were seven active Serbian Orthodox Churches in this small town. Today the Serbian influence can be seen in the remaining four Serbian Orthodox churches, the ornate Orthodox cross that is the centerpiece of the main city square, and the Serbian Orthodox Museum and Ecclesiastical Library in Hungary (Budai görög szerb egyházmegyei könyvtár), which possesses a large collection of Orthodox artifacts, icons, vestments, and manuscripts.

In 1984, the Very Rev. Dr. **Mateja Matejic** and **Predrag Matejic** were invited by Academician **Stojan Vujičić** (1933-2002), the museum's founder and first director, to microfilm this museum's collection of manuscripts and early printed books. Three separate collections, all housed in the museum in Szentendre, were photographed: (1) the museum's own holdings, (2) the contents of Grabovac Monastery (which existed from the end of the 16th century to 1950), and lastly, (3) materials from various churches in Szentendre, including a group of manuscripts translated from Greek by or for **Dionisije Popović**, Bishop of the Buda Diocese from 1791-1828.

In their three weeks there, the Matejics photographed 250 manuscripts and printed books. The resulting microfilm

is now housed in the HRL's collection. Descriptions of these items were added to OSU's online catalog in 1989.

This spring, as the RCMSS Graduate Associate (GA), I had the opportunity to work with these microfilms. I edited them to be more space-efficient, and in doing so realized that the shelf marks assigned to the microfilmed manuscripts did not match those indicated by **Nadežda Sindik**, **Mirjana Grozdanović-Pajić**, and **Katarina Mano-Zisi** in their *Opis rukopisa i starih štampanih knjiga Biblioteke Srpske pravoslavne eparhije budimske u Sentandreji* (1991). I dove straight into the detective work of determining—based on the date, provenance, language, length, and contents—how each manuscript correlates with the descriptions in the various catalogs.

This project was particularly interesting for me, because I was preparing for a trip to Hungary myself. Dr. **Jessie Labov** of the DSEELC has developed a Global program that takes place in Budapest in May and had invited me to be the second Resident Director of the trip. Together we took 25 students to Budapest, where the students attended classes. As part of their program, we took many excursions outside of the



The Serbian Orthodox Museum (Photo by L. Ressue)

Museum is a short walk up a small hill from the city center and is a very lovely secluded and quiet area away from the bustle of the very busy center that is overridden by tourists. On display at the museum are most of the artifacts in the

collection, including many of their manuscripts and printed books. I was thrilled to see the physical manuscripts after having spent so much time with their microfilm copies. A particularly exciting item on display for me was the *diamonitirion* of Stojan Vujičić, the visitor's permit that allowed him to visit Mt. Athos. I had become familiar with these documents since they were highlighted in the HRL's recent exhibit "Travelers to and from Mt. Athos," which Pasha curated, but I was certainly not expecting to come across one in Hungary!

Across the courtyard from the museum is the cathedral, dedicated to the Dormition of the Mother of God. This cathedral, built between 1756 and 1764, boasts a beautiful and incredibly complex iconostasis. Outside the cathedral there are gravestones on the pavement outside dating back to the 16th century, marking the final resting place of bishops of the Buda diocese and other prominent Serbs. This community is a small bastion of the Serbian Orthodox faith in the larger Catholic setting in Hungary.

Since my research interests lie both in Slavic and in Hungarian studies, I found it fulfilling to see these two areas meld, particularly since scholarly discourse frequently emphasizes their distinctions. It was wonderful to witness yet again how the HRL has brought diverse people, cultures, and traditions together, and also to be reminded what my work as the GA for RCMSS is supporting.

***Editor's Note:** Lauren is in her second year of working as the RCMSS Graduate Associate. She is writing her dissertation on the semantics of reciprocity in Russian, and will graduate in August 2014.



Diamonitirion of Stojan Vujičić (Photo by L. Ressue)

Connections: A Scholar's Journey

By Isolde Thyrêt

The broad reach of the activities of the Hilandar Research Library (HRL) became quickly apparent to me on my research trip to Russia in September 2012. After a long day of work in the State Archive of Tver Province (GATO), I introduced myself to a local scholar, **Galina Sergeevna Gadalova**, who has done extensive work on Tver religious history and is directing the Rare Books division of Tver State University's library. Very early on in the conversation I mentioned that I had previously done work on Tver saints using HRL materials, which included microfilmed documents from the archives of the Tver State Museum. The micro-filming project had been initiated by **Predrag Matejic**, who subsequently received a copy of all the filmed materials to be housed at the HRL. Dr. Gadalova not only was aware about the HRL and the Tver materials there, but she also knew about Dr. Matejic's previous visit to Tver. In this particular case, my connection to the HRL helped foster my relationship with a new Russian colleague. Overall, the Hilandar Library greatly aided my recent work in Tver archives and greatly enhanced my research.

The HRL has proved essential to my new book project, which concentrates on saints' cults in the Tver region of Russia from the late 16th through the 18th century. The project examines the development of these saints' cults and their meaning to the religious and lay leaders who were instrumental in this development. I concentrate on four saints from the Tver region – Saints Efrem Novotorzhskii, Mikhail Tverskoi, Arsenii Tverskoi, and Nil Stolobenskii. My work on these saints' cults began with a research trip to Russia in the spring semester of 2003, during which I made my first research trip to Tver. During that trip I collected redactions of saints' lives, miracle stories, and tales of

the discovery and translation of the relics of these saints. I then supplemented this initial archival research by collecting relevant published documents and secondary sources in the United States, but much archival work remained to be done.

This work was greatly facilitated by the HRL. I discovered that Predrag Matejic had collected documents from a Tver archive that I did not even know existed – the archive of the Tver State Museum. I received financial help from the HRL to come to Colum-

bus and use the materials. Short trips over the space of two years enabled me to explore and transcribe a treasure trove of documents located in the Tver Museum Collection and the Saratov Collection. Among the most valuable was an early 18th-century copy of the second redaction of the life of Nil Stolobenskii, a 17th-century encomium to this saint (SGU 1422), and inventories of the Nilova-Stolobenskaia Hermitage associated with this saint (TGOM KOF-24125, KOF 24126). The Tver State Museum collection at the HRL also includes the earliest and most complete vita of St. Efrem, a manuscript that belonged to Archbishop Sergii of Tver, who himself had been a monk at the Nilova Hermitage in the second part of the 17th century (TGOM KOF-1879). The HRL collection further includes liturgical

services of the saints I am researching (e.g., SGU 1422, TGOM KOF-1879, KOF-10498/6, and KOF-17489) and a rare copy of the third redaction of the life of Mikhail Tverskoi, which was composed by Makarii Petrovich in the 18th century (TGOM KOF-1853). Interestingly in light of the HRL focus on southeastern Europe, Makarii Petrovich turned out to be a Serbian intellectual who had made Orthodox Russia his new home, a fact that I was unaware of when I discovered his life of Mikhail Tverskoi during one of my stays in Columbus. After a futile attempt of trying to trace Makarii's Russian roots, I voiced my frustration to Predrag Matejic in an email. Within the hour Dr. Matejic responded with a detailed message that filled in the blanks – enthusiastic about Russian Orthodox culture, Makarii had studied at the Moscow seminary, which later on enabled him to become rector of the Tver

seminary. The information provided by Dr. Matejic also explained Makarii Petrovich's interest in the cult of the relics of local Tver saints, a fact that emerges from his diary, which records his visits to relic shrines in his eparchy and his attendance at the solemn transfers (*perelozheniia*) of relics of local saints into new shrines. The Makarii Petrovich story highlights the strengths of the HRL: not only does it provide a vital resource to scholars in medieval Slavic studies, but its professional staff takes an active interest in the research of its visitors and provides useful advice for further research both on site and from afar.

My work at the HRL turned out to be excellent preparation for my research trip to Russia in Sep-



L to R Isolde Thyrêt, Galina Sergeevna Gadalova, Chief Librarian of the Tver State Library, a representative of the city of Tver, Professor Dr. Elena Leonidovna Koniavskaja, University of the Russian Academy of Education, and a representative of the Russian Orthodox Church (Photo courtesy I. Thyrêt)

tember 2012. After working in Moscow archives, I traveled to Tver where my chance meeting with Galina Sergeevna Gadalo-va took place in the local regional archive (GATO). Mention of my research topic and my connection to the HRL immediately opened doors. Dr. Gadalo-va invited me to her book presentation, a formal event at Tver State University commemorating the publication of her new book on Grand Princess Kseniia of Tver, the mother of St. Mikhail Tverskoi.



*Isolde Thyret and Robert Romanchuk at the 6th Hilandar Conference, July 2013
(Photo by Jay Laprete)*

The ceremony involved nine speakers including university, city, and Orthodox Church leaders. During her opening remarks, the director of the Tver State University Library, **Olga Viktorovna Vershina**, introduced my husband, **Rodney Bohac**, and me to the audience and then described to the audience our connection, and the Tver State Museum's connection, to the HRL. She noted that Dr. Matejic's efforts to microfilm the manuscripts of the Tver State Museum had given the city and region of Tver an international exposure, which had brought fruits: American scholars were now coming to Tver to study the culture of this Old Russian city on site. The Tver scholarly community still remembers Dr. Matejic and views its connection with the HRL with pride.

My work in the Tver archives proved productive. At GATO I found a 1636 inventory, crucial to my study, from the Nilova-Stolobenskaia Hermitage. Since I had already looked at two subsequent inventories of this monastery at the HRL, I was able to focus in very quickly on the critical parts of the 1636 document. Other materials I examined at GATO

included several 18th-century and early 19th-century manuscripts containing Nil's life and miracles, and his office, which I am now comparing with the materials found in the HRL. At GATO I also studied 18th-century inventories of St. Efrem's monastery, the Borisoglebsk Monastery in Torzhok, and an 18th-century description of this monastic house, which provides a historical framework for the understanding of St. Efrem's cult whose hagiographical evidence I had gathered at the HRL. While in Tver I also attempted to view icons depicting the Tver saints I am studying, which are located at the Tver Picture Gallery. The gallery, unfortunately, was closed for remodeling and the holdings scattered across the city, but I did get to meet the curator in charge of the collection and view some interesting 19th-century religious objects.

My visit to the Tver State Museum proved especially fruitful, due, in part, to my connections to the HRL. Upon my arrival at the museum's offices, my connections to the HRL were the first topic of discussion. Then I was introduced to **Nadezhda Romanovna Kozlova**, who gave me a tour of the museum and pointed out materials relating to the saints of the Tver Region and their monasteries. She also spent considerable time showing me scans of important objects located in storage or in other Tver museums. She then took me to the building housing the museum's archives and art objects and introduced me to the curator of the art section, **Irina Gennadievna Moikina**. Dr. Moikina showed me many icons important for my project, and I was able to gain the rights to use reproductions in my publications.

My trip to Tver ended with an appearance at a conference on Tver saints that took place at Tver State University during my stay. Dr. Gadalo-va had insisted that I present my research at the conference she had organized. At this event I was able to connect with an acclaimed literary historian, **Elena Leonidovna**

Koniavskaia, who is an expert on St. Arsenii Tverskoi. In the introduction to my conference presentation, the HRL was again brought up. The conference showed the vitality of the study of religious history in the Tver region. Scholars from outside of Russia participated in the conference, but the strong contingent of local scholars there illustrated the vitality of local historical studies and the desire to preserve the ruins of local churches and other historical sites.

The importance of my connection to the HRL reached beyond my research trip to Russia. Two weeks later I participated in a conference on saints and local history in Dubrovnik, Croatia. On my panel were two scholars of Bulgarian religious history, **Diana Atanassova** and **Adelina Angusheva-Tihanov**, both of whom had used materials from the HRL in their research. Months later I met up with Diana Atanassova again at the Sixth Hilandar Conference, which took place at Ohio State in July 2013. These incidents demonstrate the important role the HRL plays in connecting scholars of Slavic studies around the globe.

The conferences in Dubrovnik and Tver and my research in Tver proved very fruitful to me, and my time spent at the HRL had helped prepare me for the experience and enhanced it. I would like to thank the HRL for providing financial support for my research there, and I am especially grateful to **Predrag, Pasha**, and **Lyubomira** for their help and advice.

***Director's Note:** We are grateful to Isolde for sharing her experiences. Of all the libraries with which former OSUL Assistant Director **Patricia A. McCandless** and I signed agreements—for the "Hilandar Russian Project" (1995-1996) and its continuation in the Tver Museum in 1997 (see *CMH* 1: 2, 2: 4)—the two Tver collections were among the smallest. It was good to learn that we are remembered fondly and that we made a positive and lasting impression. Such "connections" between scholars, microforms of manuscripts, and the HRL specialized reference sources and human resources are at the core of the HRL and RCMSS' missions and goals.

MSSI Alumni Corner

A Letter from Isabel

Dear Pred,

I hope this email finds you well. I would like to wish you and all Hilandar staff Happy New Year!! I hope that you have had a good start of 2014, and that it will be a great year full of happiness, health and good news.

How are all of you in the Hilandar team doing? I read in your last newsletter that Helene retired, please give her my best wishes, I hope she will fully enjoy her retirement together with her family and her lovely grandchildren!



Isa, during the 2008 MSSI (Photo by H. Senecal)

I'm very happy to write to tell you good news: the first one is that I have successfully defended my dissertation on January 9th at Universidad Complutense in Madrid, and I'm finally a doctor! I had my dissertation ready from the end of June, but because of all the paperwork at Spanish university, I had to wait several months to defend. The defense was 3 hours long, I was quite nervous but I managed to speak clearly and answer the questions I was given. The 5 professors in the committee were chosen by Pedrosa, and three of them were former MSSI participants: **Inés García de la Puente** (2003), **Enrique Santos Marinas** (2001), and **Susana Torres** (2008). Everyone made very interesting and helpful comments, and I'd like to tell you that the words "Hilandar Research Library" and your name were pronounced several times during

the defense by all the Spanish Slavists, because we all are very aware that not a single thesis would have been possible in the Slavic Departments of Granada and Madrid University without you and Hilandar. Thank you so much, Predrag, for helping us achieve our goals!



L to R Juan Antonio Álvarez Pedrosa, Isa, Matilde Casas Olea (MSSI 1999), and Mario Rodríguez Polo (MSSI 2008) (Photo courtesy of I. Arranz del Riego)

I'm attaching some pictures of that day (above). Pedrosa is holding the last Hilandar newsletter (vol 34), which we had recently received.

Now that I have already defended, I am ready to publish the *Povest' of vzjatii Carigrada* electronic edition of Hilandar mss. at any website where you think it can be useful to other people.

We miss you and think about you very often, please receive our best wishes and best regards to everybody there. We're looking forward to hearing from you.

All the best,

Isa (Isabel Arranz del Riego)

***Editor's Note:** Isa and Mario both completed the MSSI in 2008. The couple gave birth to their first son, Samuel, in March 2014. We would like to offer our congratulations to the happy parents, and we look forward to receiving a copy of Isa's dissertation for our collection!

Moving Forward

2011 MSSI Alum **Spencer Robinson** bids the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures (DSEELC) farewell as he looks forward to a new career at the Department of Defense. Spencer has worked as the Language Program Coordinator in DSEELC for three years, after receiving his MA in Russian Linguistics from OSU in 2008. We wish him well in his future endeavors!



Spencer with his Certificate of Appreciation (Photo by MA Johnson)

Passing it On

During spring semester Ohio State Slavic graduate student **Michael Furman** (MSSI 2011) brought his undergraduate Russian Culture class to the HRL to view original Russian manuscripts and early printed books, facsimiles, and other materials, complementing his lectures on medieval Russian history. At Mike's request, the cold-nosed illuminator was displayed and a demonstration was given of tracing watermarks found in paper. The students were then shown how to compare the tracings to published watermark albums in order to determine the date of the paper and an approximate date of the manuscript. We are happy to see the MSSI legacies being passed on to future scholars!

DSEELC Celebrates its 50th Anniversary!

This past school year was an important one for the Department of Slavic & East European Languages and Cultures (DSEELC), which celebrated its 50th Anniversary with a week of roundtable discussions, *Kapustnik* performances, and video-conferences with Murmansk (March 24-30). The event coincided with the annual Midwest Slavic Conference which provided a wide array of lectures from undergraduates, graduates, and professors, locally and from universities throughout the Midwest.

The conference opened with a keynote address by **Eric McGlinchy**, associate professor in the George Mason University Department of Public and International Affairs. The conference panels began early the next morning. The weeklong anniversary and the weekend conference culminated in a celebratory address by **Yana Hashamova**, Chair of the DSEELC and Director of the Center for Slavic and East European Studies, after which Associate Professor Emeritus **George**

Kalbouss delighted the audience with a brief history of the DSEELC, liberally sprinkled with humorous anecdotes. Among his highlights of the history of Slavic Studies at Ohio State



Dr. Kalbouss during his lecture (Photo by D. Purdy)

OSU alumnus and professor at Grinnell College, then gave a luncheon lecture entitled, “Russian Mad Men, Valery Todorovsky’s Teleserial *Otpel’* as a Window on Russian Culture.” In his introduction Todd made special mention of both the Hilandar Research Project and Professor Mateja Matejic’s teaching, particularly his Dostoevsky course.

After the lecture State Representative **Michael Stinziano** presented the DSEELC with a certificate announcing the official resolution adopted by the state of Ohio applauding the DSEELC’s 50 years of dedication. The Resolution also recognized the late

Dr. Kalbouss focused on the establishment and significance of the HRL and RCMSS and their pre-history. **Todd Armstrong**,

Dr. **Leon Twarog**, founder of DSEELC. US Senator **Sherrod Brown**, a DSEELC alumnus, sent a video message of congratulations, which was played at the end of the luncheon.

There were many familiar faces at the Midwest Slavic Conference. Among them were MSSI alumni from Ohio State: **Andrea Sims** (2001), **Spencer Robinson** and **Lauren Ressue** (2008), **Nina Haviernikova** and **Helen Myers** (2011), **Ray Alston**, **Katya Rouzina**, **Hope Wilson**, **Izolda Wolski-Moskoff** (2013), as well as from University of Kansas—**Gwyn Bourlakov** (2013), and from Indiana University—**Anna Arays** (MSSI 2013) and her adviser, **Ariann Stern-Gottshalk** (MSSI 2001), who is now a professor in the IU Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures.



The 50th Anniversary Resolution (Photo by J. Jones)

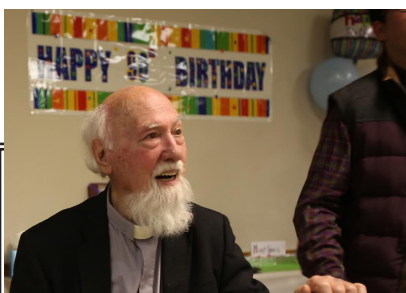
Welcome to Our New RCMSS Program Coordinator!

We would like to take a moment to welcome our new RCMSS program coordinator, Jessi Jones. She comes to us having recently completed her MA in East European and Slavic Studies here at Ohio State, where she focused on environmental development in Russia during the Soviet era. Born and raised in Aurora, Colorado, she completed her undergraduate studies at the Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver, during which time she studied abroad at Bilgi Üniversitesi in Istanbul, Turkey. Her favorite part about Eastern Europe and the Balkans is the genuineness of the people, the richness of the cultures, and the meld of historical presence with the present. She studied both Russian and Turkish in school but considers herself always a beginner in language acquisition. She has worked in development and communications departments within several non-profit organizations including Project C.U.R.E in Centennial, Colorado, and the Ohio Environmental Council here in Columbus. Jessi also worked for University Housing during her years both as an undergraduate and a graduate student, assisting in the creation of an inclusive multicultural residential community for international and non-traditional students. She loves bright colors, reading autobiographies, and has an eclectic taste in music. She has already proved to be a valuable addition to the RCMSS!



Standing in front of the Boğaziçi Strait, Turkey (Photo courtesy J. Jones)

HRL Founder the V. Rev. Dr. Mateja Matejic's 90th Birthday



On Feb. 22, a surprise birthday party was held for the V. Rev. Dr. **Mateja Matejic**. He was born Feb. 19, 1924, in Smederevo, Serbia. Through his care, planning, and hard work, the Hilandar Research Project came to life and grew into the great library of resources we have

today. Our appreciation for his contributions is immense, and so we share in the celebration of his 90th birthday.

In his thank-you speech Father Mateja expressed his gratitude that after having lived through horrible times in his youth, including the loss of so many people dear to him during WWII and being forced to leave his homeland of Yugoslavia, he had been greatly graced by God, including – a wife with whom he would soon celebrate his 65th wedding anniversary, five loving children of whom he was so proud, the special joy of having over a dozen grandchildren and great-grandchildren, a lengthy and productive career as a priest, author, educator and scholar, and the acquaintance, respect, and friendship of numerous colleagues, scholars and friends in this country and throughout the world. The accompanying photographs (courtesy of **Rajko Brkić** and **M.A. Johnson**) capture, from left, clockwise: the V. Rev. Dr. Matejic enjoying a birthday serenade; listening intently to a birthday speech; sitting with his wife **Ljubica**, in front of their extended family including children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren for a photo opportunity; shaking the hand of longtime friend of HRL/RCMSS **Nikola Borato**; and the birthday cake decorated with pictures of St. George and St. Stevan of Dechani, his parish churches in Monroe, Michigan, and Columbus, Ohio.



Luka Vidmar Lectures on Forbidden Books

In his first visit to Ohio State **Luka Vidmar**, of the Research Centre of the Slovene Academy of Sciences and Arts (ZRC SAZU) in Ljubljana, presented a lecture entitled “Forbidden Books in Inner Austria until the End of the 18th Century” on May 6th. This lecture was made possible by the new Slovene Research Initiative spearheaded by OSU’s Center for Slavic and East European Studies (CSEES). The initiative allowed Dr. Vidmar to remain in Columbus after his lecture to and use of prohibited books in the 16th-18th centuries. His research included analyzing bookplates, mar-previous ownership in printed books Books and Manuscripts Library. When Dr. Vidmar stated, “My time here as though it is a privilege to be here Everything about it—the resources, on campus stresses the importance



Dr. Vidmar, working in the Reading Room (Photo by J. Jones)

European Studies (CSEES). The in Columbus after his lecture to and use of prohibited books in the 16th-18th centuries. His research ginal inscriptions, and other signs of from the University Libraries’ Rare asked about his stay at Ohio State, has been really enjoyable, I feel and what amazes me is this library. and the architecture and its setting of book knowledge.”

The Slovene Research Initiative is made possible by an endowment through the ZRC SAZU. The collaborative efforts of **Yana Hashamova** (CSEES director), **Oto Luther** (director of ZRC SAZU), and the Society for Slovene Studies—represented by **Raymond Miller** (Bowdoin College), **Carole Rogel** (Ohio State emerita), and **Timothy Pogačar** (Bowling Green State University), assisted in moving the idea of the program forward. Dr. Vidmar’s lecture was the first of several events the Initiative will sponsor throughout the 2014-2015 academic school year.

Photojournal: A Visit from HRL Friend Miroljub Joković



L to R Mladen Lučić and Miroljub Joković view the HRL collections with Predrag Matejic.



Miroljub Joković on the 11th floor of the Thompson Library



*Miroljub Joković talking with Helene Senecal
(All photos by MA Johnson)*

Thank You for Your Generosity!

*With sincerest appreciation the HRL and RCMSS acknowledge
the following donors for their generous support*

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И
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Хришћанска султанија Мара и
манастири Свете Горе

предавач

др Михаило Поповић



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Читаоница Фонда уметности
Кнез Михаилова 56/II
Четвртак, 27. фебруар 2014. у 19:00



**Translation: Belgrade Municipal Library and the Society of the Friends of Holy Mount Athos announce the 162nd lecture in the series “Holy Mount Athos” – Christian Sultanida Mara and the Monasteries of the Holy Mount – Dr. Mihailo Popović, Art Reading Room of the Belgrade Municipal Library, Knez Mihailova 56/II, Thursday, 27 February 2014 at 7:00 P.M*

MSSI 2015

Medieval Slavic Studies Institute

June 22-July 17, 2015

The Ohio State University

The Hilandar Research Library (HRL), the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies (RCMSS), and the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures (DSEELC) at The Ohio State University will host a four-week **intensive** Summer Institute for qualified graduate students in Columbus, Ohio, 22 June-17 July. The Medieval Slavic Summer Institute (MSSI) will offer: *Practical Slavic Palaeography* and *Readings in Church Slavonic* as the *Medieval Slavic Workshop (Slavic 8741)*. All lectures will be in English.

Manuscript material on microform from the Hilandar Research Library's extensive holding forms a large part of the lectures and exercises. There is also a program of lectures on related topics, and other activities.

Applicants must be graduate students with a BA degree and with a reading knowledge of Cyrillic and of at least one Slavic language. *Preference will be given to applicants with reading knowledge of Old Church Slavonic or some other pre-modern Slavic language.*

The Hilandar Research Library, the largest repository of medieval Slavic Cyrillic texts on microform in the world, includes holdings from over 100 monastic, private, museum, and library collections of twenty-three countries. There are over 6000 Cyrillic manuscripts on microform in the HRL, as well as over 1000 Cyrillic early pre-1800 printed books on microform. The holdings range from the eleventh to twentieth centuries, with a particularly strong collection of manuscripts from the fourteenth to sixteenth centuries. About half of the manuscripts are East Slavic, with much of the remainder South Slavic in provenience.

For further information about the HRL and the RCMSS, visit their website at rcmss.osu.edu and see archived issues of *Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage* for accounts of MSSI 1999 (Vol 6), MSSI 2001 (Vol 10), MSSI 2003 (Vol 14), MSSI 2006 (Vol 20), MSSI 2008 (Vol 24), MSSI 2011 (Vol 30), and MSSI 2013 (Vol 34). The DSEELC website address is slavic.osu.edu.

For more information on eligibility, credit, housing, financial aid, and to obtain an application to the MSSI, please contact the HRL and RCMSS at hilandar@osu.edu or write to us at:

HRL/RCMSS
119 OSU Thompson Library
1858 Neil Ave Mall
Columbus Oh 43210-1286
Re: MSSI Application.

Deadline for receipt of application: 20 February 2015



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Honoring those who make our work possible



L to R Shannon Niemeyer, Helene Senecal, and Nick Spitulski (Photo by MA Johnson)

At the 2013 RCMSS and HRL Holiday Party this past December, we had the opportunity to once again express our gratitude and bid a fond farewell to **Helene Senecal**, who retired after 22 years of dedicated work as the RCMSS Coordinator. She is pictured here with the Thompson Library Event Coordinator, **Shannon Niemeyer**, and with **Nick Spitulski**, Program Coordinator for the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, both of whom worked closely with Helene.